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Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know why the Government are not prepared to give the reasons for not accepting the recommendations of the district board?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"The Government considered that the Inspector's proposal was sound."

Re-shuffling of the elctoral circles of the South Kanara District Board.

* 559 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the circles of the South Kanara District Board have been re-shuffled now;

(*b*) what the reasons are for the re-shuffling;

(*c*) whether the district board was consulted in the matter; and

(*d*) what opinion did they express and whether a copy of their resolution in the matter will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) Five of the old circles were split into two new circles each.

(*b*) The old circles referred to were allotted two non-reserved seats each, which was against the general policy of Government.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The district board stated that it had no sufficient time to consider the proposals. The Government are not prepared to place a copy of the resolution on the table of the Council.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"In answer to clause (*b*), the Government say that 'the old circles referred to were allotted two non-reserved seats each, which was against the general policy of Government.' May I ask whether this general policy was not taken into consideration at the time when the circles were originally formed during the elections of 1932?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"This question was then considered; but the final proposals were received by the Government too late to be given effect to in the last elections."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"May I know what the general policy is that the Government have been following with regard to the reservation of seats?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"I am afraid this question does not really deal with reservation of seats. It refers to the splitting up of the old circles. The general policy of the Government is that there should be single-seat constituencies as far as the general seats are concerned. In this case, there were dual-member constituencies."

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Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I ask what difficulties there are in placing a copy of the resolution of the district board on the table of this House, when it is a public matter?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I think the decision of the district board was published and will be available."

Filing of claims and objections to the preliminary electoral rolls of the South Kanara District Board.

* 560 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether after the publication of the preliminary electoral rolls for the District Board in South Kanara, a number of claims and objections were received by the election officer; and

(*b*) whether they were later on returned as being not in the proper form and fresh dates were fixed for sending them in?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Originally the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards fixed a programme of dates for the various stages in the preparation of electoral rolls for the district board. Claims were presented by the parties concerned and some of these claims were in the form of lists, instead of in the prescribed form. In consequence of the proposal to split five of the old circles of the district board, the programme was cancelled and a fresh programme was fixed. Only such of the claims already presented, as were not in the prescribed form and as did not furnish all the particulars necessary for filling up the form were returned to the parties concerned with instructions to prefer their claims in the proper form.

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" May I know why the election officer accepted claims which were not in the prescribed form?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" It is mentioned in the answer here. The returns had to be re-presented in the prescribed form."

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" May I know whether the claims were not presented to the election officer in the form of lists according to his own instructions?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I cannot give such details. As far as I know, they were all returned with instructions to be re-presented in the proper form."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" May I know whether all claims were admitted and whether the question of the truth or otherwise of the claims was gone into?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I presume the election officer and the appellate authority did go into each case on the merits."